

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending. As a result of this amendment, claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended. No new matter has been added to this application by way of amendment.

Objections

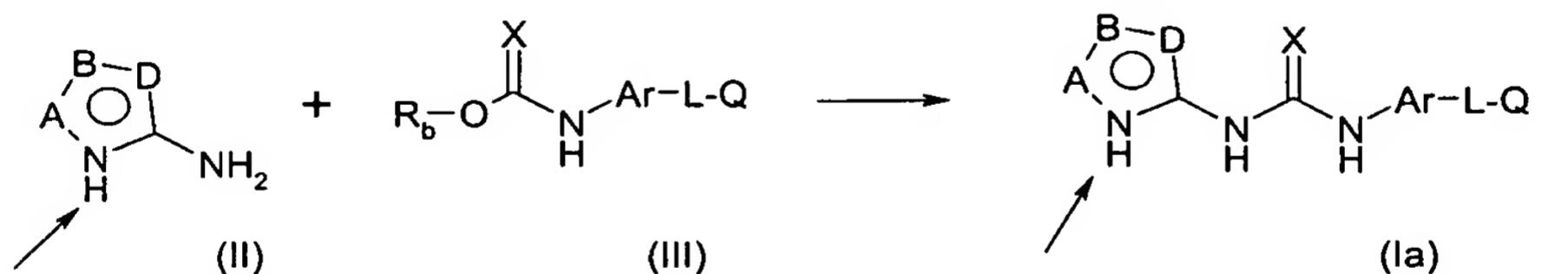
The term ‘suitable’ as used before several terms in the claims has been objected to. While not agreeing that ‘suitable’ renders the claims unclear, applicants have deleted each occurrence of the term in the claims. Withdrawal of the objection is therefore respectfully requested.

The 35 USC 112 second paragraph rejection

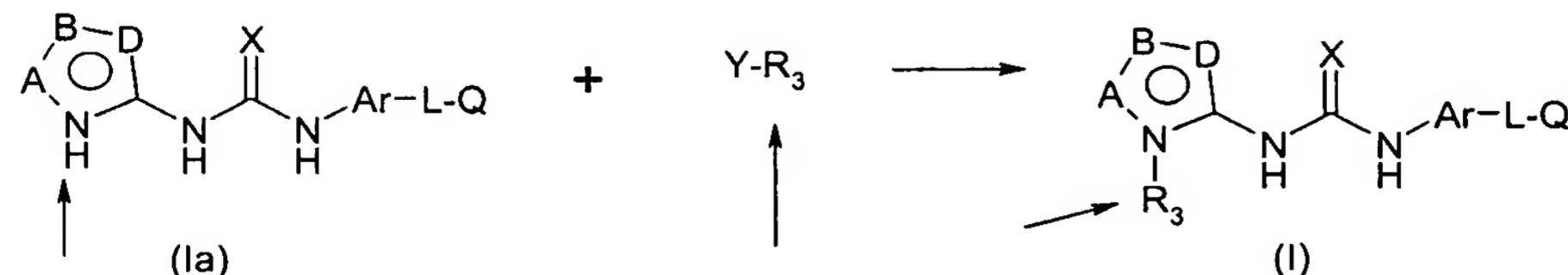
Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 USC second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite.

It is alleged in the Office Action that it is unclear whether or not R_3 can be hydrogen. Applicants disagree. The process, as recited in the claim and disclosed in the specification, shows in step 2 that R_3 applies only to formula (I). Intermediates (Ia) and (II) do not have attached an R_3 group, rather they possess a hydrogen atom at the same position. It is clear that in step 2, H is exchanged for R_3 .

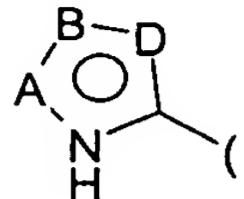
Step 1:



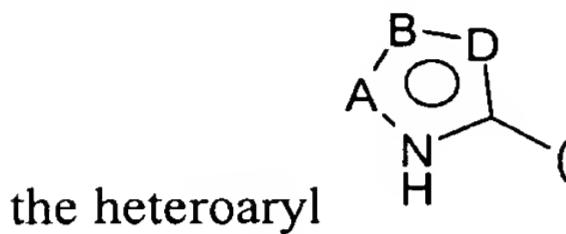
Step 2:



Therefore it would be clear to one of ordinary skill in the art that the heteroaryls recited in claim 1 for



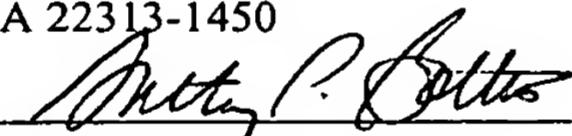
specified for intermediate formulas (Ia) and (II), would be the same heteroaryls for formula (I) except that H is replaced by R₃ are shown in the reaction schemes. For clarity, applicants have amended claim 1 to delete reference to formula (I) in defining



the heteroaryl

Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

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Dated

Respectfully submitted,



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